

Dickinson College  
Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Transfer Partnership  
*for*  
Northampton Community College

## Dickinson College

Revolution was in the air when Benjamin Rush, a prominent Philadelphia physician, prepared the charter for Dickinson College in 1783. During the previous decade, Rush had marched alongside the American army, signed the Declaration of Independence and maintained his eminent position among the greatest political and intellectual minds of the budding nation.

At his core, Rush believed in freedom—of thought and action—and he believed fully in America’s potential for unprecedented achievement. So seven years after he met with other members of the Constitutional Congress to sign the Declaration of Independence, Benjamin Rush signed the charter of a new college on Sept. 9, 1783. On what was then the American frontier, a struggling grammar school in Carlisle, Pa., was transformed into Dickinson College, the first college chartered in these new United States.

Today, Dickinson is a thriving liberal-arts college of 2,300 students, located in a town of 20,000 just two hours north of Washington, D.C., and west of Philadelphia. Twenty minutes away is Pennsylvania’s capital city of Harrisburg, where government, law, nonprofit and business internships await our students. Enhanced by 41 majors, more than 40 study-abroad programs, scores of service opportunities, more than 130 clubs and organizations, and 23 varsity sports at the NCAA Division III level, Dickinson truly engages the world at home and abroad.

## Dickinson at the Forefront

Within 30 years of its founding, Dickinson already had earned a reputation for being at the forefront of higher education.

- Dickinson was the first college in the newly formed United States to establish a law department (in 1833), which later became the Dickinson School of Law (1890), and since 1917 has been independent of the college.
- In 1965, Dickinson established a study-abroad program in Bologna, Italy; since then the college has developed one of the nation’s most extensive global-education programs, now consisting of more than 40 programs on six continents.
- In the 1980s Dickinson developed the “workshop science” curriculum, in which classroom activity centers on hands-on learning and experimentation.
- In the mid-1990s, the college established a community-studies center, where students perform field research and collect oral histories in local communities.

- In 2008, Dickinson launched one of the nation's first academic centers focusing on the environment. The Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education will infuse environmental education throughout the curriculum to enhance an already strong environmental-studies program and an already college-wide commitment to green initiatives, organic farming and sustainable living.

The Community College Partnership Program started by Dickinson College in 2009 with honors programs at five of our region's top community colleges is yet another example of Dickinson's leadership in educational initiatives. Recognizing that the path to a four-year degree can be blazed not only from high school, Dickinson has established these partnerships as active, coordinated and structured programs that go well beyond the passive articulation agreements found between most community and four-year colleges.

## Northampton Community College

Northampton Community College (NCC) is the fastest growing public college in Pennsylvania. The only community college in Pennsylvania with residence halls, NCC serves more than 32,000 students a year at the Bethlehem main campus, Tannersville branch campus, the Fowler Family Southside Center in south Bethlehem, and satellite sites in Northampton, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties. Nearly 14,000 students are enrolled in credit programs, and another 20,000 are involved in workforce training, adult-literacy classes or youth classes. Approximately one in four high-school graduates in Northampton County and one in six high-school graduates in Monroe County continue their education at NCC.

NCC grants associate degrees in arts, sciences and applied sciences and offers career and transfer programs in more than 100 fields in arts and sciences, business and technology, education, health care and social and leisure services.

### NCC Special Attributes:

- An unwavering commitment to affordable and accessible education
- A diverse student body
- Leadership in workforce training
- Adult-literacy programs in a four-county region
- The largest scholarship program of any community college in Pennsylvania
- Regional and national recognition for excellence in early-childhood education, math education and work with business and industry in staff development, microelectronics, pollution control and energy efficiency.

## Dickinson and Northampton Community College

Dickinson College and NCC have entered into this collaborative relationship to facilitate the transfer of full-time students from the NCC Honors Program into a full-time baccalaureate program at Dickinson.

This collaborative partnership will enable NCC Honors Program graduates to complete a baccalaureate of arts or baccalaureate of sciences degree at Dickinson in two years. To be eligible to participate in this partnership, NCC Honors Program students should apply to Dickinson at the beginning of the semester in which their transfer associate degree will be completed. Subsequently, students must earn a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 and graduate from NCC with a transfer associate degree.

## Admission and Transition to Dickinson College

Qualified students who meet the NCC Honors Program requirements, have earned a transfer associate degree and are admitted to Dickinson will be granted junior (fifth-semester) status. A course-by-course articulation will be completed for all NCC Honors Program general-education courses, in addition to electives and courses related specifically to a student's major.

- Beginning in a student's first semester (first 15 credits) in the NCC Honors Program, an admissions counselor and/or academic advisor from Dickinson will visit NCC to meet with interested students at least once a semester. Along with NCC staff, they will review curricular choices that will maximize transferable credits to Dickinson. These meetings will ensure that interested students pursue courses that will transfer to Dickinson and enable the student to graduate with a bachelor's degree after two years of full-time study at Dickinson.
- During the spring semester, interested students from the NCC Honors Program will visit Dickinson's campus as a group, attend classes of interest and meet with faculty and staff to discuss their academic interests and their progress toward transfer.
- Admission applications will be due by Feb. 1, and candidates will be notified of admission, financial-aid and scholarship decisions by April 1. Candidates must notify Dickinson of their intention to accept or decline the offer by May 1. (For students receiving their associate degree in December, an Oct. 1 application deadline and a Nov. 1 notification date are required.)
- The application fee will be waived for students with a 3.5 GPA or higher applying under this partnership.
- Dickinson will conduct an orientation session for new transfer students. It also will arrange for all NCC Honors Program students admitted under this agreement to form a cohort with honors transfers from other partner community colleges. This cohort will be guided by a staff mentor during the first transitional semester at Dickinson.

## Financial Aid

Each admitted student will receive financial aid to meet their financial need as determined by Dickinson and will be given aid instructions and application materials to complete along with the admission application. In addition, each admitted student will be considered for a \$15,000 annual Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship from Dickinson, the John Montgomery Scholarship (\$10,000 per year) or the Founders Scholarship (\$7,500 per year) based on grades, curriculum and leadership abilities.

All students admitted under this partnership, including those awarded the academic scholarships above, will be eligible for need-based grants, loans and work-study programs to meet their full demonstrated financial need according to the PROFILE service of the College Board (need-based applicants also must file the FAFSA). Academic-scholarship recipients who also demonstrate financial need according to the college's aid policies will hold the scholarship as a part of their need-based financial-aid package.

Each student admitted under this partnership who qualifies for academic and/or need-based aid will be eligible for up to four semesters of financial aid and scholarships for full-time study. This may include one semester in a Dickinson-run or Dickinson-partner study-abroad program. In addition, financial aid will be provided on the basis of need for a short-term January or summer-abroad program should the student qualify for one of these programs.

## To Be Considered ...

- After the completion of 12-15 credits, discuss your intentions with the director of your honors program.
- After meeting with the honors program director, plan a meeting with the director of transfer services at NCC to discuss your options and to arrange a time to meet with a Dickinson representative.
- Contact Ms. Dottie Scheneman, Director of Transfer Admission at Dickinson (schenemd@dickinson.edu) to let her know of your interest.
- After the completion of 30-45 credits, but before graduation, visit [www.dickinson.edu/admit/transfer](http://www.dickinson.edu/admit/transfer) for transfer information, admission and aid applications and general directions.
- Submit the admission and financial-aid applications by the required deadlines and complete your coursework for the associate degree at NCC.

## Into the Future

Dickinson's cross-disciplinary approach has led to strengths in international education, the natural and mathematical sciences, environmental studies, the arts and pre-professional preparation. The curriculum has been enriched further by first-year seminars, internships and cooperative student-faculty research and publishing. To enhance its science programs, Dickinson completed the second phase of the Rector Science Complex, which houses chemistry, molecular biology & biochemistry and neuroscience. The addition is connected to the first phase, home to physics, math and computer science.

Proud of its heritage and true to the vision of its founders, Dickinson remains committed to its historic mission: to prepare young people, by means of a useful and progressive education in the liberal arts and sciences, for engaged lives of citizenship and leadership in the service of society. Dickinson faculty and staff look forward to working with the NCC Honors Program to create an even more dynamic academic experience for all of our students.

## Dickinson Facts

**Degrees Granted** — Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science

**Major Fields of Study** — Africana studies, American studies, anthropology, archaeology, art & art history, biochemistry & molecular biology, biology, chemistry, classical studies, computer science, dance & music, East Asian studies, economics, English, environmental science, environmental studies, French, geology, German, history, international business & management, international studies, Italian studies, Judaic studies, law & policy, mathematics, medieval & early modern studies, Middle East studies, music, neuroscience, philosophy, physics, policy management, political science, psychology, religion, Russian, sociology, Spanish, theatre arts, women's studies.

**Special Programs** — Astronomy, Chinese, comparative civilizations, creative writing, film studies, Japanese, Latin American studies, military science (ROTC), secondary teaching certification.

**Number of Faculty** — 240, 9 percent are persons of color; 92 percent have earned a Ph.D. or other terminal degree.

**Student-Faculty Ratio** — 10:1

**Average Class Size** — 17 students per class.

**Campus** — 308 acres: 90-acre main campus including a 30-acre recreational area close by and a 188-acre farm six miles from campus.

**Student Enrollment** — 2,360 full-time students representing 43 states and territories and 41 foreign countries; 16 percent are students of color and 5 percent are international.

**Financial Aid** — As of fall 2008, 65 percent of all students receive financial assistance in some form; approximately 56 percent received merit or need-based aid from the college